

I am completely opposed to the restriction of satellite radio services. These radio services provide significant value to me, as a frequent automobile traveler and consumer. The ability to maintain contact with the radio stations of my choice is highly valuable to me during my frequent long distance driving trips. Also, the recent addition of local traffic and weather programming for the major urban areas is a significant benefit to me that is frankly unavailable to me otherwise, unless I memorize many different radio station frequencies in the geographies in which I drive. Additionally, other 'free' radio stations do not provide the continuous traffic and weather information that satellite radio does - they only provide this information during scheduled 'traffic breaks' or 'weather updates'. Satellite radio service is something that provides me with significant benefits and value. As I am willing to pay my own money for this value, I fail to see how 'free' radio services can justify their objections to this service. Unless, perhaps, it is the advertisers who pay the 'free' radio stations for their marketing that are unhappy. Maybe they just don't like the idea of any group of people being able to isolate themselves from the constant societal onslaught of marketing messages. Personally, I believe that the freedom to choose what I will listen to is just as fundamental a right in America as the freedom to believe in what I feel strongly about, or the freedom to say what I want to say. I should be able to continue to pay for a service that provides me a benefit, without unnecessary restriction. If the 'free' radio stations and their advertisers are worried about whether or not I am receiving local traffic and weather information, then let them develop a way to provide me a competitive service.